

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for method for transferring files between a primary storage system and a backup and restore system is described. The system generates collapsed
5 extents which are used to specify data to be backed up to a backup and restore system. The backup and restore system backs up data based on the collapsed extents but records all extents included in the collapsed extents to enable the system to facilitate restoration of the data at a later point in time.

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